(a) the criteria followed by the Government for providing financial assistance to the States for construction buingings and laboratories in schools under the National Education Programme;

(b) whether no provision has been made to provide financial assistance for constructing buildings for new schools opened after the year 1986-87 under the said programme;

(c) whether Rajasthan Government have sent any proposal to Government for the construction of buildings and laboratories in schools; and

(d) if so, the reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH): (a) and (b). Normally, the Central Government does not provide financial assistance for construction of school buildings and laboratories. However, under the Boarder Area Development Programme (BADEP), in the States of Gujarat, Jammu & Kashmir, Punjab and Rajasthan, financial assistance is being provided for the above purposes.

(c) and (d). An amount of Rs. 10 crores has been allocated during the year 1991-92 to Government of Rajasthan, under (BADEP) for proposals which include construction of school buildings, laboratories and upgradation of facilities in schools.

[*English*]

Pollution Control Devices in Visakhapatnam

4242. SHRI M.V.V.S. MURTHY: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Visakhapatnam Steel Plant, the Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited and the Hindustan Zinc Limited in Visakhapatnam city of Andhra Pradesh have installed pollution control devices;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the action taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI RANGARAJAN KUMARAMANGALAM): (a) and (b). The Visakhapatnam Steel Plant has installed pollution control devices on all its major processes for complying with the effluent and emission standards. Hindustan Zinc Limited have installed the double conversion double absorption process followed by a tail-end scrubber, for controlling sulphurdoxide emissions. The Hindustan petroleum Corporation have the necessary equipment in all its processes to comply with the prescribed standards, except for the standard prescribed for sulphurdioxide emissions. The unit has initiated action to comply with this standard by 1992-93.

(c) does not arise.

Eklakhi-Balurghat Railway Line

4243. SHRI SUBRATA MUKHERJEE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the progress of construction of the Eklakhi-Balurghat railway line;

(b) total amount allotted for this project during the last three years;

(c) the amount allotted for the project during 1992-93; and

(d) the time by which it is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) Only earth works between Eklakhi and Gazole has been done so far.

(b) Rs. 3,000/-.